

California and the National Disaster Resilience Competition

In the fall of 2014, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the \$1 billion National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). The NDRC is employing a competitive format to award Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding. Sixty seven jurisdictions (state and local governments) that were impacted by presidentially declared disasters between 2011 and 2013 are eligible to compete for funds through the NDRC. The NDRC's goals are to produce innovative, forward-looking programs that address unmet recovery needs, but that also serve to better prepare communities for future disasters and a changing climate. The NDRC is a year-long, two phase competition. In June 2015, California was selected, along with 39 other jurisdictions, to participate in Phase II of the competition.

The State of California Team is developing a project to support recovery and resilience in Tuolumne County, the site of the 2013 Rim Fire. The California team is comprised of State, federal, regional, and local partners. The program is designed to pilot the partnerships and practices needed to support resilience in the communities and natural systems in State's upper watersheds, which provide 60 percent of the State's potable water.

Scoring Criteria for the NDRC Competition

- Applications must be tied to an eligible disaster, the State of California qualified for the NDRC under the 2013 Rim Fire impacting Tuolumne County (DR 4158).
- Project submissions must address an unmet need resulting from the qualifying disaster, and must prepare communities to face future disasters.
- The most competitive proposals will be dynamic, innovative, science-based, scalable and replicable, forward-looking, and provide multiple co-benefits.
- Applicants must engage stakeholders, integrate the impacts of climate change, and develop an approach to resilience based on sound science.
- The application must leverage investments from public, private, and philanthropic sectors.

Timeline & Current Status

Since California was invited to Phase II of the competition in June, the State and its partners have continued to engage community members and stakeholders to develop the Phase II application. California and its partners are drafting the Phase II application to reflect the principles of the approach proposed in the State's Phase I application and to identify the projects needed to put the approach into action. The Phase II application will be finalized over the next few weeks, following public review and comment. The Phase II application is due on October 27th, 2015 and Phase II winners and final award announcements are projected for December 2015/January 2016.

California's Approach: The Community & Watershed Resilience Program

The State of California, Tuolumne County and other federal, state and local partners developed a Phase I framework, founded on science-based best practices and community input, focused on creating a replicable framework built around the connections between community and watershed resilience. California's application focuses on Tuolumne County, but seeks to develop a model for strengthening rural community resilience and forest and watershed health across California and the Western United States.

The following describes the project activities selected for Phase II of the State of California's NDRC application.



Community Resilience Centers (CRCs)

The application proposes to develop two community resilience centers in the County - one in Groveland and one in Tuolumne City. These centers would serve multiple purposes, including during an emergency as an evacuation centers that include animal boarding, wifi, and other needed services. They would also provide year-round needed services such as a food bank, education and training facilities, commercial kitchen, and childcare. The Groveland facility would be on a larger site and will include housing for CA Conservation Corps workers.

Estimated Cost: \$55 million

Biomass Facility & Wood Products Campus

This goal of this facility is to provide clean power, heating and cooling to both CRCs and residents of Tuolumne County. This facility will include operations of a sustainable wood products business generating products such as fence posts, pellets, or some timber. Residue from the operation and other non-merchantable wood will then be used in a modern biomass facility with best available emissions control technology to generate heat, electricity and cooling. Depending on the volume of feedstock available, the CRC will meet part or all of its energy demand through the operation of the proposed project. This will be a two-phase project, with the first including site selection, preparation, engineering & design, environmental review, and the second phase including build-out and implementation.

Estimated Cost: \$22 million

Forest & Watershed Health

The three main activities in this pillar are: biomass removal, reforestation and restoration, and the creation of a network of strategic fuel breaks. The biomass component includes removal of biomass from public lands. Reforestation and restoration includes tree planting, noxious weed treatment, rangeland improvements. Biomass removal and reforestation will comprise the biggest components of this pillar, given the interconnectedness of the two and the focus on forest and watershed health. The critical fuel breaks component encompasses seven fuel breaks that have been identified by CalFire and USFS as critical not only for regional protection, but for enhanced ecosystem and community recovery, and to enable and ensure ongoing restoration work.

Estimated Cost: \$40 million



Three Pillars of the Community and Watershed Resilience Program

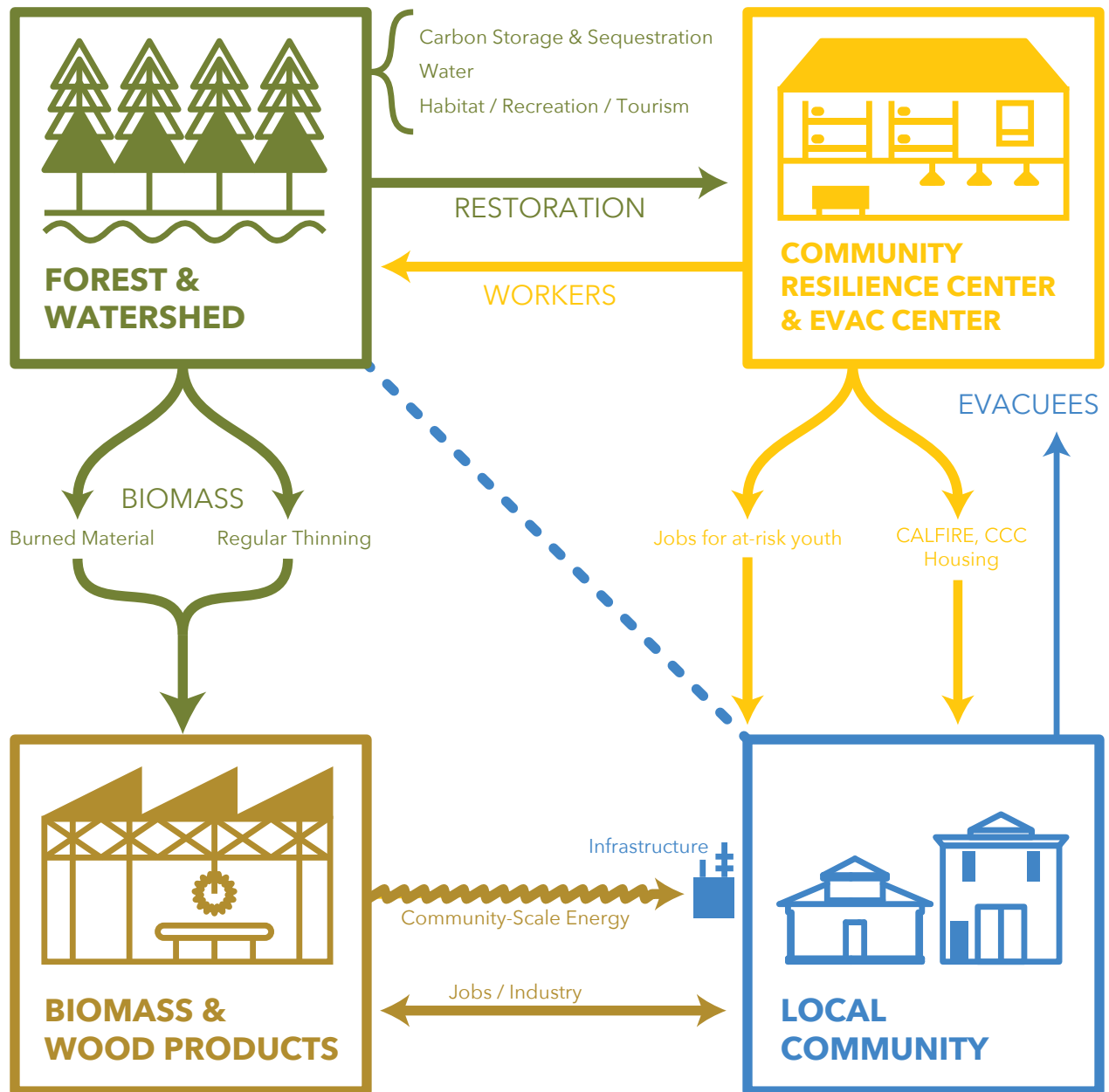
Community Resilience Centers (CRCs) - est. \$55M

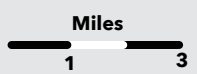
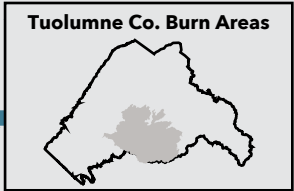
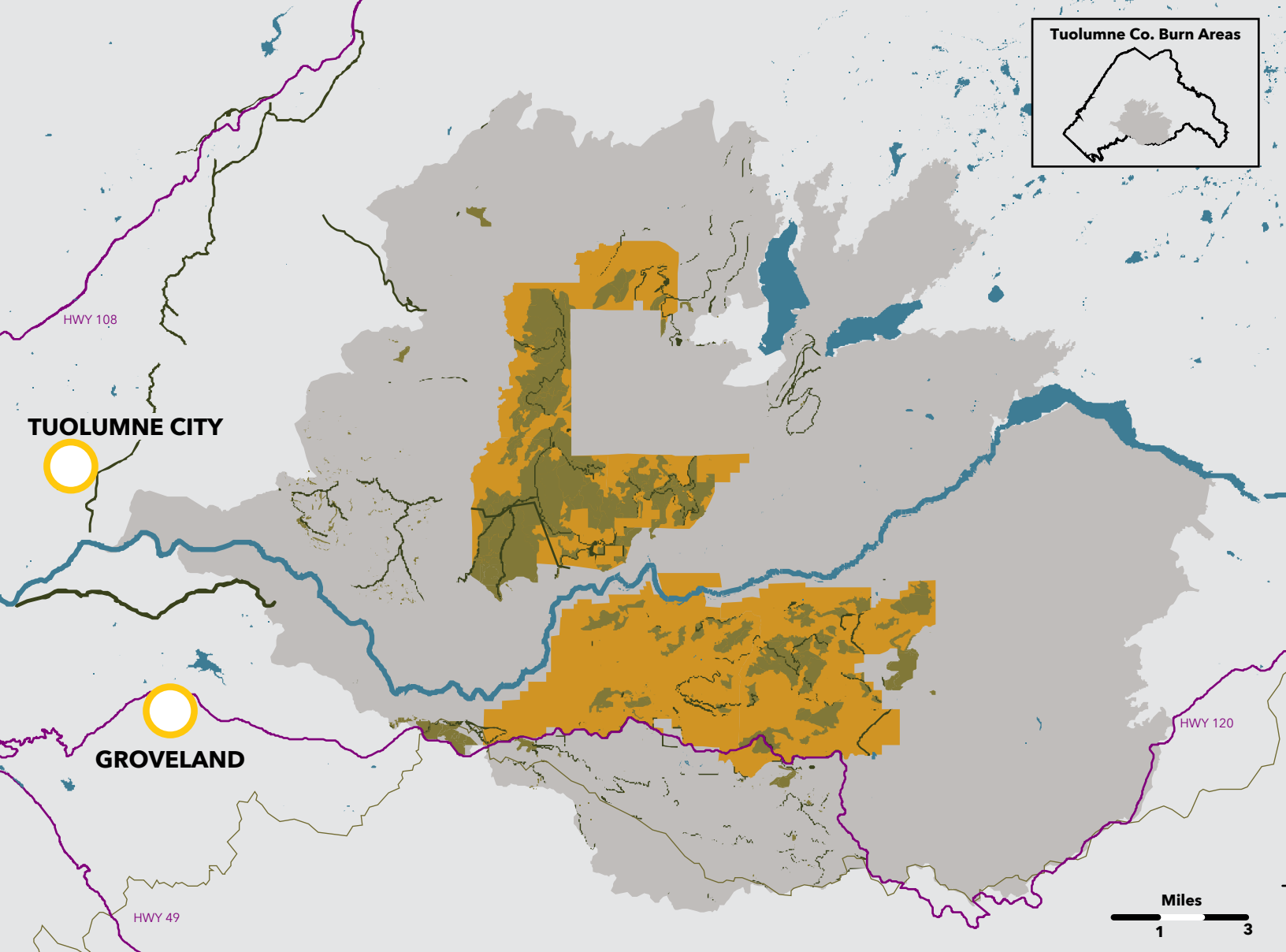
Tuolumne City & Groveland

Biomass Co-gen Facility & Wood Products Campus - est. \$22M

Forest and Watershed Health - est. \$40M

Three main focal points: biomass thinning, reforestation, critical fuel breaks





FOREST & WATERSHED

Biomass removal, Restoration and Reforestation, Noxious Weed Treatment, Rangeland Improvements, Critical Fuel Breaks

- TARGET REFORESTATION AREAS**
- FUEL BREAKS**



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTER & EVAC CENTER

GROVELAND AND TUOLUMNE CITY LOCATIONS



BIOMASS & WOOD PRODUCTS

Wood Products; Biomass Co-gen Facility (Heat, Power and Cooling Facility)

- TARGET BIOMASS REMOVAL AREAS**

- RIM FIRE AREA**
- COUNTY LIMIT**
- LAKES AND MAJOR RIVERS**
- HIGHWAYS**

